



DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Project No. 2362-044]

Allete, Inc.; Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Assessment

On December 20, 2021, Allete, Inc. filed a relicense application for the 2.1-megawatt Grand Rapids Hydroelectric Project No. 2362 (project). The project is located on the Mississippi River near the City of Grand Rapids in Itasca County, Minnesota. The project does not occupy Federal land.

In accordance with the Commission's regulations, on October 28, 2022, Commission staff issued a notice that the project was ready for environmental analysis (REA notice). Based on the information in the record, staff does not anticipate that licensing the project would constitute a major Federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment. Therefore, staff intends to prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA) on the application to relicense the project.

The EA will be issued and circulated for review by all interested parties. All comments filed on the EA will be analyzed by staff and considered in the Commission's final licensing decision.

The application will be processed according to the following schedule. Revisions to the schedule may be made as appropriate.

MILESTONE

TARGET DATE

Commission issues EA

August 2023¹

Comments on EA

September 2023

Any questions regarding this notice may be directed to Laura Washington at laura.washington@ferc.gov or (202) 502-6072.

Dated: January 25, 2023.

¹ The Council on Environmental Quality's (CEQ) regulations under 40 CFR 1501.10(b)(1) require that EAs be completed within 1 year of the Federal action agency's decision to prepare an EA. This notice establishes the Commission's intent to prepare an EA for the Grand Rapids Project. Therefore, in accordance with CEQ's regulations, the EA must be issued within 1 year of the issuance date of this notice.

Kimberly D. Bose,
Secretary.

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